



TRB Access Management Committee Meeting



Paper Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, August 16, 2000 – 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Agenda
Mid-Year Meeting of
TRB Committee A1D07, “Access Management”
Wednesday, August 16, 2000 - 1:00 p.m.
Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel, Portland, Oregon

Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Art Eisdorfer opened the meeting at 1:00 pm by welcoming 5 new committee members: Joe Bared, Federal Highway Administration, Bill Frawley, Texas Transportation Institute, Chris Huffman, Kansas Department of Transportation, and Donna Lewis, Mercer County, New Jersey. Outgoing Committee Chair Ron Giguere then reviewed the accomplishments of the committee during his tenure and the growth from a section to a full Committee. He thanked members for their hard work and formally passed the mantle of chairmanship to Arthur Eisdorfer, New Jersey Department of Transportation, who served as Committee Secretary during Ron’s tenure. Kristine Williams, Center for Urban Transportation Research, University of South Florida, was introduced as the new Committee Secretary.

As new Chair, Art Eisdorfer emphasized his continued commitment to the following goals:

1. Complete the comprehensive access management manual,
2. Continue to spread the word on access management, and
3. Continue to facilitate new research to advance the field.

Art Eisdorfer made a motion to approve the minutes from 2000 Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by the committee. The members and friends were asked to update the information on the rosters and other attendees were asked to sign the attendance list.

National Conferences and Meetings

Wrap up of 4th National Conference

Del Huntington and Linda Apple gave an overview of the Fourth National Conference in Portland, Oregon. About 235 participants attended the conference, with about 160 staying through the last day. About 39 states and the District of Columbia were represented by the participant list, as well as France. Phil suggested looking at who wasn’t represented for additional outreach activities. Session 15 on Roundabouts appeared to be the most popular Session. The Mock Trial was not well attended. Many participants commented positively on the field trips, with about 30 participants on the median field trips, and 50 on the bike trip. However, Linda Apple noted that they were logistically difficult. About 45 people attended Access Management 101, once again illustrating the demand for having a general workshop in concert with the conference. This year the registration fee was increased to cover production of the compendium. The objective was to pass on about \$17,500, but it may be closer to \$20,000.

Comments indicated that most people felt the conference fee was not too high in relation to the meals, quality of lodging, and other aspects of the conference

Lessons learned included the importance of not setting a July 1 cutoff for early registration, as this is the beginning of the new fiscal year for state agencies. Linda Apple indicated she would produce a report on the conference and lessons learned and forward that to Art and Kristine to distribute to members.

Frank Broen of Teach America is producing the Conference Compendium, which will be produced on CD-rom and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Doug Landry requested that it be completed as early as possible and Frank offered to make early versions available. About 80-90% of papers have been received to date, but only a few presentations. Linda requested that presentations be included as well.

TRB 2001 Session

As has become a tradition, the best papers from the conference were selected for representation at the access management session at the 2001 TRB Annual Meeting. Best papers nominated included Tim Bevan on context sensitive design, Jerry Gluck's paper expanding on the analysis done in NCHRP 420 with new data; David Gwynn on public involvement, a presentation on roundabouts by Bruce Robinson of Kittelson & Assoc, and Kristi Sebastian from Wisconsin on successful median modification projects. Frank Broen's "SAM I AM" Dr. Seuss style presentation was also well received. Art noted that offer letters would be sent to presenters and the session reserved with Jim Scott.

5th National Conference in Austin

Eddie Shafie was formally inducted as Chair of the Conference Subcommittee. He said the contract was signed by TRB with the conference hotel in January 2000. The Conference will be held at the Omni Hotel between June 23-26, 2002. The hotel can readily accommodate 250 people. Eddie distributed information on the hotel and the current rate projection is approximately \$80 per night. Volunteers to chair session tracks will be requested at the TRB meeting in January.

Potential sites and dates for the 6th National Conference

Sites discussed for the 6th National Conference in 2004 included Kansas City, Missouri and Salt Lake City or Park City, Utah. Members discussed the value of getting broad geographic coverage. A vote was held and the majority (16) voted for Kansas City. Chris Huffman indicated he would explore KDOT's interest in hosting the conference and the possible locations, including the Country Club Plaza in downtown Kansas City. The committee agreed to hold its 2006 conference in Utah. UDOT needs to refine their recommendation for a location to propose.

Future Committee Meetings

The 2001 Annual Meeting will be the first meeting following the conference in Oregon. It was suggested that the next mid-year meeting of the Committee be held to coincide with the TRB A Group Division Meetings (Group One Council), which will be Vail or Breckenridge on July 11-15. After some discussion, Del Huntington suggested we coordinate our meeting with that of the

TRB group meeting. Phil Demosthenes motioned to approve, and it was seconded by Bud Koepke. There was no opposition. Art Eisdorfer indicated he would notify Jim Scott and begin making arrangements.

Relevant Conferences and Meetings

Jerry Schutz mentioned that the Small and Medium Size Communities Conference will be held September 28 to 30, 2000 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The American Planning Association conference that will be held in March 2001 in New Orleans. An access management session has been proposed by Kristine Williams. Similar sessions have been accepted for the past three APA National APA Conferences. The Eighth Conference on the Application of Transportation Planning Methods will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas 22-26 April 2001 and abstracts are being sought. Send abstracts to Eddie Shafie who is hoping to put together a session on access management. SAASHTO will be holding a meeting in Ashville, NC in 2001 and has contacted Kristine Williams to put together an access management session. Kathy Facer of FHWA will follow up with Kristine on this. ITE will be held in Chicago next summer and abstracts are due soon.

Access Management Manual

Kristine Williams reiterated the schedule presented by Ron Giguere in the plenary session for production of the manual, which calls for the full draft manual to be presented and reviewed at TRB and the final draft to be sent to TRB for publication in March. The manual has been largely drafted, except for the chapter on permitting which will be distributed in early fall for review by the subcommittee chairs. Extensive editing work is anticipated in the fall to meet this schedule. Comments on materials submitted for review prior to the Portland Conference must be submitted to CUTR by August 31. The objective is for TRB to publish the manual in July or August of 2001 so that it coincides with the mid-year meetings. Contracting delays have resulted in extension of the schedule about a year beyond that which was originally anticipated. These delays were largely due to fiscal year budgeting issues of FDOT and FHWA, and some of the funding has still not been received by CUTR. CUTR will continue to make every effort to meet this schedule.

Research

Jerry Gluck noted that he had completed Research Results Digest, Number 247, in May 2000. The Digest presents the results of Jerry's analysis of the Minnesota database on access related crashes. Jerry evaluated the data using methods from NCHRP Report 420 and results were relatively consistent.

Pat Hawley discussed three new problem statements that have been submitted. The problem statement from last year entitled, "Safety of U-turns" was approved, funded, a consultant has been selected and work is underway. On May 24, 2000, NJDOT submitted the first stage research problem statement "Economic Impacts of Access Management Treatments on Business, A Research Synthesis," to NCHRP. This would be a synthesis of current practice, as opposed to an NCHRP Research Project.

Phil Demosthenes submitted two other problem statements on May 31, 2000. These address 1) Development of Right-Turn Deceleration Lane Warrant and Design Criteria and 2) Estimating the National Frequency and Costs of Access Related Crashes. The statement on warrants for right turn deceleration lanes finished out of the running in the last NCHRP selection process. The decision was made to reshape it and resubmit it in May.

One paper was submitted for the 2001 annual TRB meeting and it was decided that the paper should be reviewed by members of the committee and Bill McShane. The committee discussed future efforts to coordinate with a new program area in FHWA related to research and development. Phil Demosthenes was thanked for all his hard work in facilitating research in access management and was formally inducted as Chair of the Research Subcommittee.

Outreach

Chair of the Outreach Subcommittee, Bud Koepke, indicated that outreach activity since the January meeting in Washington, DC could have been better. This year the NHI short course "Access Management Location and Design" was conducted eight times and included seven different states. It was presented twice in Michigan. Since 1994, the NHI Course has been presented 42 times. This amounts to about 1300 class participants from states, counties, cities and FHWA. Several of the programs also included some private consultants. The course conducted in Missouri this year was the third course there in a little over a year. The course notes have been updated and sent to NHI to be used in future offerings. Anyone that would like more information on having a course in your state should contact Bud Koepke or Vergil Stover. There have been several requested for individual copies of the FHWA video tape "Access Management Overview" and the "Access Management Library CD", which has been very well accepted.

Bud noted that access management is becoming more and more prominent in other organizations. A separate chapter on access management was included in the 1999 Edition of the "ITE Transportation Engineering Handbook." Access management will have a greater presence in the next AASHTO "Green Book," and several NCHRP projects deal directly with access management. Two of these projects were presented during the Portland conference. In addition, the access management manual should be a best seller when it is published. These activities are important, however Bud encouraged members to do more and asked anyone at the meeting with additional information, to contact the subcommittee.

Bud thanked the Committee for his term as Chair and indicated he was stepping down. John Taber was inducted as new chair of the outreach subcommittee.

Access Management Website

Frank Broen noted that the website offers a benefit of a discussion group medium and asked whether we should use Delphi (Gary's site). Members discussed the Delphi website created by Gary Sokolow to serve as a resource and chat room on access management. Gary noted the difficulty in keeping the site updated. Ali Eghtedari from Multnomah County volunteered to establish an E-mail listserve discussion group on access management. Frank Broen received a small grant to update the FHWA access management website and Ron Giguere suggested that Ali coordinate with Frank on the website activities.

Frank noted that he will push the Delphi site on the website. The conference program and proceedings will also be placed on the website in PDF format. Art suggested that we make some Powerpoint presentations on access management available on the website for others to use and members agreed. Ron Giguere suggested maintaining an up to date calendar of events on website and requested such from the outreach subcommittee. The calendar could be interactive and the committee would get a password to make changes. Art recommended that one member be asked to do this.

Future Subcommittee Structure

Art Eisdorfer presented a proposal for the future subcommittee structure. Five subcommittees were recommended. The structure and responsibilities are as follows.

Access Management Manual Subcommittee

Responsibilities would be to address comments received on the manual, maintain the manual website, address revisions to the manual as new information is developed and organize the information in the manual. Vergil Stover indicated that interpreting content should not be a function of the subcommittee as the manual is not intended to be that prescriptive. The chair will be selected at TRB in January 2001. Until that time, the current subcommittee chairs will serve as oversight for the manual.

Conference Subcommittee

Responsibilities include planning and implementing national conferences. Also, Art recommended that this group play a larger role in the annual and mid year meetings, not just the conference. As noted above, Eddie Shafie will chair this subcommittee.

Research Subcommittee

Responsibilities include increasing solicitation of papers, developing and maintaining a list of problem statements and their status, participating in the development of the Highway Safety Manual, and participating in SHRP2 and suggesting research topics to be funded. TRB suggests that the Committee solicit papers more actively. The year after conference we have trouble generating papers. As noted above, Phil Demosthenes will chair this subcommittee.

Strategic Plan Subcommittee

TRB wants us to align our activities with their strategic plan and, given the importance, this effort should be a subcommittee. Responsibilities include developing a strategic plan for the Committee that is aligned with the TRB Strategic Plan, identifying access management projects to be undertaken by 2005, 2010, and 2020, and identifying FHWA incentives to implement access management, particularly as part of new construction. This subcommittee could also take over activities related to the paper on access management in the new millennium that was prepared by Ron Giguere. Ron Giguere was asked to Chair this subcommittee and accepted.

Outreach Subcommittee

The primary responsibility of this subcommittee is to get the word out on access management and establish formal liaisons with other TRB Committees (Geometric Design A2A02, Operational Effects and Geometric Design, Transportation and Land Development A1D02, Statewide Multimodal Transportation Planning A1D01) and professional organizations (ITE, AASHTO, APA, NARC, ASCE, etc). Herb Levinson emphasized the importance of getting more outreach to the broader engineering community doing impact studies and working with developers. Dane Ismart suggested we expand our international emphasis and reach out to other nations, international membership, what's happening in other countries and so forth. The strategic plan might consider an international symposium. Current international participants found out about it on the web. Dane strongly says we need to be proactive and find out who in various countries is doing access management or interested and extend an invitation. Then an international symposium could work. Art asked everyone to send international contacts and e-mail addresses to Kristine. Jerry Gluck says TRB is a good time to identify international participants also. As noted above, John Taber is the new Chair of this subcommittee.

New and Other Business

Art noted that he had circulated the Federal Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Planning, www.nara.gov/fedreg/public.html, May 25, 2000 issue (Vol 65, No. 102). Kristine had provided comments to the docket related to including access management in relevant sections, and Art asked others to submit theirs to him quickly so he could coordinate a response.

Adjournment of General Meeting

Art thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Executive Session

The Executive Session was not held. Instead, the subcommittee chairs met and discussed the access management manual.